

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01928 060852Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----011844 060859Z /14

O 060800Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7480
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BEIRUT 1928

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, PBOR, LE
SUBJ: SOUTH LEBANON: SOVIET OBSERVERS

REF: (A) JERUSALEM 0982 (B) BEIRUT 1920

1. FONMIN BOUTROS CALLED AT 0800 LOCAL APRIL 6 TO SAY THAT
GENERAL KHOURY REPORTED HE HAD EXCHANGE WITH GENERAL ERSKINE
AT LUNCH ABOUT TEN DAYS AGO AS FOLLOWS.

2. GENERAL ERSKINE HAD NOTED THAT UNTSO HAD SOME SOVIET
OBSERVERS WHO WERE CAUSING NO TROUBLE. WHAT DID KHOURY THINK
ABOUT USING THEM IN LEBANON? KHOURY HAD REPLIED THAT HE DID
KNOW IN WHAT CAPACITY THEY WOULD BE USED HERE AND, IN ANY
EVENT, THIS WAS A QUESTION FOR THE POLITICAL AUTHORITIES.
THIS APPARENTLY CONSTRUED BY ERSKINE AS MEANING KHOURY HAD NO
OBJECTIONS.

3. BOUTROS SAID HE WAS SENDING INSTRUCTIONS TO TUENI
TO RAISE THIS ISSUE IN PASSING WHILE DISCUSSING OTHER
SECRET

SECRET

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MATTERS WITH URQUART AND WALHEIM IN NEW YORK. TUENI
WAS NOT TO REFER TO DECISION TO BRING IN SOVIETS BUT TO
REGISTER POINT THAT LEBANON OF COURSE WISHES TO BE CONSULTED
AT POLITICAL LEVEL CONCERNING NATIONALITIES TO BE USED ON
ITS TERRITORY.

4. BOUTROS DOES NOT WISH US TO MAKE DEMARCHE ON BEHALF

OF LEBANESE BUT HOPES THAT IF SUBJECT COMES UP WE WILL ASK
UN AUTHORITIES IF THEY HAVE CONSULTED WITH LEBANESE
GOVERNMENT AND EXPRESS SURPRISE IF THEY HAVE NOT. PARKER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BEIRUT01928
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780148-0656
Format: TEL
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780488/aaaacvzt.tel
Line Count: 65
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 429f5cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 JERUSALEM 982, 78 BEIRUT 1920
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3059858
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTH LEBANON: SOVIET OBSERVERS
TAGS: PEPR, PBOR, LE, UR, UNSC, UNIFIL
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/429f5cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014